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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Peter HAMBERGER, August HIPPER

Application No.: U.S. National Stage
of PCT/DE00/01844

Filed: January 11, 2002

Docket No.: 111717

For: A PARQUET STRIP, THE USE THEREOF FOR MANUFACTURING A PANEL OR
A PARQUET ELEMENT AS WELL AS A PARQUET ELEMENT MANUFACTURED
THEREFROM AND A METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A PARQUET STRIP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1 and 4 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Please replace claims 2 & 3 as follows:

2. (Amended) A parquet strip according to claim 5, characterized in that the impregnation extends over the entire elevation of the narrow sides and/or the long sides.
3. (Amended) A parquet element including a plurality of parquet strips according to claim 5 which are arranged on a supporting layer.

Please add new claims 5-7 as follow:

- 5. A parquet strip (as a part of a parquet element) including two long sides and two narrow sides, an impregnation being supplied onto the faces of the long sides and the narrow sides at least over a part of their elevation. --